REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. OVERVIEW OF AMENDMENT AND REMARKS

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

- 1. Elect Group 1.
- 2. Amend claims 1-10.
- 3. Add new claims 13 20, also deemed to belong to elected Group I.
- 4. Request a one month extension of time.

B. ELECTION UNDER 35 USC §121

The Office Action dated May 4, 2004 holds the subject matter of claims 1-7 to be non-obvious and patentably distinct from that of claims 8-12. Applicant(s) hereby elect the invention of Group I, (upon which claims 1-7 and new claims 13 – 20 are readable) for further substantive examination.

Since a restriction requirement is never proper unless the restricted group of claims is patentably distinct (i.e., <u>inter alia</u>, non-obvious under 35 USC §103) from the elected group of claims, the Examiner is requested to insure that such patentable distinctness is present before proceeding to make the requirement final.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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